and the final price of the bulk drug was revised after review;

(b) whether it is a fact that large amount is involved for recovery from Merind;

(c) what are the reasons for delay the assessment; and

(d) what steps are being taken to expedite the assessment?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The hearing to M|s. Merind Ltd. was given in June, 1987 and the amount recoverable from the Company would be assessed by the Special Team constituted for such cases.

Price fixation of combiflam

1928. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of Combiflam has been reduced recently;

(b) what was the price fixed earlier under DPCO, 1979 what is the price fixed now and what is the price charged by the company; and

(c) what are the details of price fixation in respect of material cost and packing cost?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The price of Combiflam Tablets, under DPCO: 1979, was fixed at Rs. 7.68 for 10's pack. The price currently being charged by the concerned company is not readily available. No price has so far been fixed for this formulation pack under DPCO 1987.

Purchase of equipments from Japanese firm

1929. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Sunday of 21st-27th August, 1988, to the effect that the Department of Telecommunications has purchased from Nippon Electronic Corporation, Japan some senstitive items;

(b) if so, what are the details of equipments purchased and whether global tenders were floated and comparative prices offered; and

(c) if so, whether any commission has been paid to an Indian Agent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir, Government is aware of the news item. The Department of Telecom have not purchased any item from M|s. NEC which can be described as sensitive in nature.

(b) Certain purchase of telecommunications equipment have been made from M|s. NEC for use in the Public Telephone Network of the Department of Telecom. These orders have been placed after inviting competitive tenders and selection based strictly on technical and commercial merits.

(c) All purchase orders on NEC have been placed directly without involving any Indian Agent.

Hydel power projects in Tamil Nadu

1930. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the schemes approved by Central Government to increase generation of hydel power in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the number of the schemes on which work is not being carried out and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to obviate the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) The following approved and on-going hydro-electric projects are envisaged to give benefits in the